

Monroe Co. ATC Holds Its First Summer Career Camp May 24-26, 2006

“Camp was an exciting opportunity for students to develop a better understanding of what we do here at the Area Technology Center. The teachers put together an awesome camp for these young people and at the same time helped them to recognize and appreciate the types of careers available to them. I’m so proud of their hard work and desire to keep students at the heart of what they do.”

**Lee Ann Wall, Principal
Monroe Co. ATC**



**OCTE Deputy Executive Director
Lewis D. Carter accepts a camp
t-shirt from Monroe Co. ATC
Principal Lee Ann Wall**

The Monroe Co. ATC summer career camp was paid with federal funds through America's Career Resource Network (ACRN) and was one of twelve camps held in the KY Tech System of Schools.

“Holding a career camp is a great way to inspire students to learn more about what profession they might want to pursue in the future,” says Office of Career and Technical Education Deputy Executive Director Lewis D. Carter. “Not only do they have fun during camp week, they are exposed to a variety of careers while engaged in hands-on activities designed to challenge students and expose them to several facets of a career. Our teachers have done an excellent job of planning projects that excite and stimulate a student's curiosity. Through that curiosity, we have seen students grow as they begin to grasp this opportunity for career exploration.”



Automotive Technology

Instructor: Michael Emberton

Project: Each student learned about shop safety, automotive careers, parts of an engine, tools needed to disassemble and assemble simulated small engines, brakes, filters, and changing oil.



“The career camp was a good activity for our school to develop because of the lasting effect it will have on the students who participated. It gave those who were able to attend an insight about career options and skills that can be learned by enrolling in the programs at the area technology center. We believe it will help promote a positive image of career and technical education.”

Mike Emberton

Above photo: Students are learning the parts of an engine and how to change the oil in a car. From left to right: (partially hidden in red shirt) Chante Young, Tiffany Stephens, Allison Thompson, Lori Froedge, and Logan Short.

Business & Office

Teacher: Amy Page

Project: Students discussed a variety of desktop publishing and entrepreneurship career opportunities. Students were introduced to Microsoft Office and had a chance to use some of the programs. In the business and office world, following directions is an integral part of the job. One of the major activities in learning how to follow directions was learning how to tie a tie. This also supported the notion of professional attire in the workplace.



Photo: Jeremy Cloyd, (yellow shirt), a Monroe Co. Middle School student, learns how to use Microsoft Word during class.

“I really enjoyed coming to the career camp,” says Jeremy. “It’s fun to go to all of these classes because I can’t wait to see what I get to do next. I have learned that it doesn’t matter if you are a male or female, anyone can do a job.”



“I thoroughly enjoyed teaching during this summer career camp and believe that the students benefited from the experience. We were also pleased to hear that so many of the parents thought that what we were trying to do was a valuable use of time for their children. In my opinion, it’s never too early to introduce the concept of ‘career.’ And, it’s a great addition to introduce that concept with hands-on activities to inject excitement.”

Amy Page

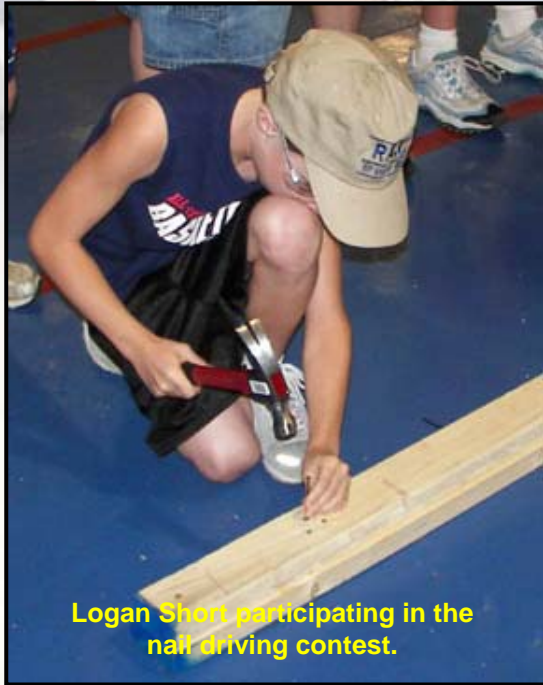


Above photo: Instructor Mike Emberton displays a completed “single knot” tie; while Lewis Carter (photo at right) demonstrates the fine art of tying a “double knot” tie.

Carpentry Program

Teacher: Brent Steenbergen

Project: Students took part in a safety discussion and learned about opportunities available to them in the construction career field. The students used a saw to cut out parts and assemble a birdhouse. A nail driving contest was held for those students who wanted to participate.



Logan Short participating in the nail driving contest.



Monroe Co. Middle School students show off their finished birdhouses. From left to right: Trent Lyon, Logan Lyons, Daniel Long, Jeffery Cloyd, Jeremy Cloyd, and Carpentry Instructor Brent Steenbergen

“The career camp provided students with an opportunity to visit our school and learn about some careers that they might not have ever thought about. We were pleased to engage students in making projects that they could take home. At the same time, this gave the parents a better view of the opportunities available through the programs at our school. It was a win-win situation for everyone. We believe more students now have a different perspective of careers that can be learned at the ATC as a result of their camp experience.”

Brent Steenbergen

Health Sciences Program

Teacher: Kyna Thompson

Project: A video was presented to introduce the basic principles of first aid. Each student was provided with all the materials to build a first aid survivor kit. The kit included the container, band-aids, bandages, gauze, mini-lights, tape, CPR masks and other basic essentials. Students were presented with information to begin learning about health care careers and how this career field was open to both men and women.



“It is my opinion that our camp was very successful because we provided students with hands-on, fun activities to support our major objective of career exploration. Students learned a lot and enjoyed the opportunity to come to our school. I believe students will be eager to come to our programs in the future.”

Kyna Thompson

Wood Technology Program

Teacher: Jeff Short

Project: Students discussed a variety of woods career and entrepreneurship opportunities. A safety discussion was held so that everyone would understand the importance of safety in the lab. Each student was given a sheet of birch veneer plywood. Using the CNC machine, each student cut out a design identifying his/her individual graduation date. To complete the project, students applied a stain and finish. For fun, students were encouraged to participate in a wood drilling contest.



Wood Drilling Contest: Lucas Short (foreground) is in a race with Lori Froedge (blue shirt) as Logan Lyons watches the contest. Business Technology Instructor Amy Page served as the judge.

“The camp was exciting for students as well as the staff. It was a new experience for me and I look forward to doing it again next year. It’s a great way to introduce programs and careers to students who might not be aware of the opportunities available to them,” says Instructor Jeff Short. “I was also fortunate to enlist the help of Susan Hagan, a Roy Anderson Lumber Co. employee. She did a great job of explaining to the students that girls could do jobs that most people think only boys can do and vice versa. It covered the non-traditional gender equity aspect of jobs in the industry. When learning is fun and informative, everyone benefits.”



Electrical Program

Teacher: Wendell Owen

Project: Students were introduced to electrical careers and the opportunities that are available to them. A safety discussion was conducted prior to each student wiring his or her “lighthouse” lamp. A PVC pipe was inserted into the frame of the lamp. A coupling was added at the top of the PVC pipe to hold the light fixture. Once the PVC pipe was in place, all the electrical components were installed. Upon completion, each camper was able to test his/her own light to see if the bulb would turn on and off.



Instructor Owen explains the wiring process



**Photo at left:
Tiffany
Stephens
(foreground)
and Chante
Yount
(background)
with their
completed
lamp.**

“The career camp provided a great way to introduce students to electricity and all of the other programs we teach in our ATC. I was surprised at how quickly the students caught on to what we were trying to teach them,” says Instructor Wendell Owen. “Because they were taking part in hands-on activities, I believe the learning curve was shorter and I expect we will see some of these students in our programs when they can enroll.”

Welding Program

Teacher: Jeff Berryman

Project: Students discussed welding safety and learned about careers in welding. They made a “lighthouse,” (better known as a lamp) by measuring and cutting parts with a band saw. The parts were then tack welded using a Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW) process. Students painted the “lighthouse” and the project was sent to the electricity class to be wired for completion.

“The career camp was a great tool for students to better understand what career and vocational technical education is all about. We provided kids with fun projects to build and at the same time talked about careers possibilities. Some of the projects reinforced more than one program area and kids could begin to make connections between some of the classes.”

Jeff Berryman



Monroe Co. Middle School student Daniel Long listens intently to Mr. Berryman as he gives instructions on how to tack weld the lamp base to the post.

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Good News Story #169

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Written by: Fran Dundon

